

Spring 1-15-2014

ENG 1092G-097: Honors Composition and Literature

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Recommended Citation

Loudon, Michael, "ENG 1092G-097: Honors Composition and Literature" (2014). *Spring 2014*. 39.
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1092G-097

Michael Loudon

Spring 2014 (5:00-6:15 TR CH 3170)

Office: CH3361 (314D)

Phone: 581-2428

Office Hours:

T 10-11; W 2:00-4:00; R 3:30-4:30

(or by appointment)

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English 1092G.097: Honors Composition and Literature

Course Description: This course introduces students to the traditional major genres—poetry, fiction and drama—of literature as well as the genre of film. Using a variety of texts, the course seeks to combine close readings and informed responses in order to develop critical reading and writing skills. After some initial work on acquiring critical reading skills through the study of poetry, the course will focus on actively using the imagination to enter texts from diverse periods and cultures.

Course Format: We shall use discussions as our primary means of developing the readings. Ongoing mini-lectures will provide supplemental biographical, literary and socio-historical contexts as necessary. I shall encourage you to consider the relationship between the critical reading of a text and your own writing strategies. Exercises, in class and as assigned homework, will be required on a continuing basis as necessary. I shall focus, thematically, on concerns regarding race, gender and class, but you are free—indeed, encouraged—to introduce whatever insights you wish to contribute to our discussions.

Prerequisite: All students must have completed English 1001G, 1091G or the equivalent.

Texts and materials:

L. Jacobus, *The Bedford Introduction to Drama*, 6th ed, Boston: Bedford, 2001.

Ann Charters, *The Story and Its Writer An Introduction to Short*

Fiction, 8th ed, NY: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2011.

M. Meyer, *Poetry: An Introduction*, 6th ed, Boston: Bedford, 2010.

Fergus Mason, *The Fruitvale Station Shooting*, Lexington, KY: Absolute Crime Books, 2013.

T. Fulwiler and A. Hayakawa, *The Blair Handbook*, 11th ed.

Webster, *Webster's New World Dictionary*, 3rd college ed.

Journal (bound, notebook or printed from computer)

Handouts—anything distributed throughout the course

Folder—keep all course materials through the term

Requirements and grading:

Preparation and Participation (15%): Reading and rereading—be thoroughly prepared before you come to class and be ready to participate in the discussion of the assigned texts. Responses in your journal will facilitate your initial preparation for discussion. This requirement also includes exercises, quizzes, contribution to class discussions, and any other tasks that demonstrate a responsible, diligent attitude—or lack of one (for example, looking up the meaning of a word before class while preparing a response to a poem instead of hoping that someone else will know what it means). NOTE: *Infrequent attendance seems to preclude much participation.*

Essays (10% each): These formal essays are approximately four pages each and assignments address each principal genre. (30% total)

Examinations (10% each): Objective and essay format, these are examinations over the principal genres. (30% total)

Journal (10%): Ongoing—before and/or after classes—responses to readings.

Final examination (15%): Objective and essay format.

General Policies:

Grading Standards: We shall follow the EIU English Department Guidelines, distributed in class. In all cases, we shall use a plus and minus system to distinguish, say, a high *B* from a low one.

Attendance: We do take roll, and we evaluate attendance only indirectly in the context of your participation in the course.

Conference: These are at your request unless we ask to see you. Please ask for help as soon as you feel you need it; please don't wait until the last couple of weeks of class.

Submission of work: Essays should be typed, double-spaced, on one side of the paper only, titled and indicate the following: name, date, course and section number. Exercises and quizzes must be legible.

Late Essays: For each day that the essay is late, the letter grade will fall by one full grade: an *A* essay due on Friday will be an *F* by the next Thursday. If there are particular difficulties, please see one of us.

Plagiarism: The English Department Policy

Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism—"The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and the representation of them as one's own original work" (*Random House Dictionary of the English Language*)--has the right and the responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignment of a grade of F for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office.

If we discover an act of plagiarism, we shall exercise the right to the fullest extent possible. (See *The Blair Handbook* (11th ed) pp. 626-635, for a further discussion of what constitutes plagiarism and how to integrate properly your material from sources.)

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English 1092G.097: Composition and Literature—Syllabus

January

T 14: Course Introduction

R 16: *Poetry: An Introduction*: "Introduction," Chap. 1: Hayden (21); Francis (26). (Read each chapter up to "Poems for Further Study," and pay particular attention to specified poems. Note especially the guidelines on pp. 38-39.) Note, too, all **bold-faced terms** in the text and those used on the board in class discussions.)

T 21: Chap. 1, Morgan (34); Cummings (35); Collins (40) and Springsteen (44); Chap. 2; Chap. 26.

R 23: Chap. 26 (continued)

T 28: Chap. 3: Jarrell (70); Marvell (80); Keats (94); Brooks (96)

R 30: Chap. 4: Williams (107, 651 and 652); Arnold (112); Blake (119); Pound (130)

February

T 4: Chap. 5: Shakespeare (134); Dickinson (136); Thomas (140);

R 6: Chap. 6: Frost (158); Robinson (162); Fearing (165); Stevens (171)

Quiz #1

T 11: Chap. 17: Eliot (494-495)

R 13: Chap. 7: Dickinson (190); Kinnell (194); Hopkins (199); Keats (213)

T 18: Chap. 8: Wordsworth (221); Blake (232-33); Roethke (238); **Quiz #2**

R 20: Chap. 9: Thomas (253); Shelley (265)

T 25: Chap. 10: Whitman (273); Kinnell (279; handout); Williams (281);

Harper (handout); **Quiz #3; Essay #1 assigned**

R 27: Chap. 14: Langston Hughes; Quiz #4

March

T 4: (continued)

R 6: **Examination #1; Essay #1 DUE**

Spring Break (March 10-14)

T 18: *The Story and Its Writer*: Baldwin (59)

R 20: (continued)

T 25: Carver (218)

R 27: Olson (1065); **Essay #2 assigned**

April

T 1: Tolstoy (1265)

R 3: (continued)

T 8: Wright (1401)

R 10: **Examination #2; Essay #2 DUE**

T 15: *The Bedford Introduction to Drama*: "Introduction";
Athol Fugard, *"Master Harold"...and the Boys* (1390-1414)
R 17: Film version of the play; **Essay #3 assigned**

T 22: Fergus Mason, *The Fruitvale Station Shooting*
R 24: Film: *Fruitvale Station*

T 26: Discussion of film and techniques
R 28: **Examination #3; Essay #3 DUE**

Final Examination: Tuesday, May 6, 5:15-7:15 pm